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24 February 1949

To: ( )  
From: ( )  
Subject: German Propaganda Koran.

DECLASSIFIED AND RELEASED BY  
CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY  
SOURCE METHOD EXEMPTION 3B2B  
NAZI WAR CRIMES DISCLOSURE ACT  
DATE 2007

1. In accordance with instructions from the home office, I have succeeded in obtaining a copy of the German miniature propaganda Koran for pouching to the home office. This might easily be the only copy available in the Theatre.

2. During my interrogation of Gordon S. Cosimano, I was informed that the German Propaganda Ministry had brought out and disseminated in large numbers a miniature Koran in its complete text with political comparisons between Moslem teachings and Communist doctrines.

3. The man responsible for this edition was Dr. Taubert who was in charge of the "Ostpropaganda" (propaganda directed toward the East) in the Propaganda Ministry. Sought by denazification authorities in a very halfhearted way, Dr. Taubert is believed to live under the name of Reichert (first name not available) in the British Zone. Efforts by Cosimano to locate him have as yet been unsuccessful. They are being continued.

4. Dr. Taubert's superior in the Ministry was Herr Leopold Gutterer, Staatssekretar, who at present lives in Fulda. A meeting between Gutterer and myself took place in Wiesbaden on 18 February. A letter from Cosimano introduced me to Gutterer under the same name as I am known by Cosimano. I pretended to be a representative of Historical Archives in Washington, trying to locate a copy of the Koran. He promised to make all efforts to secure a copy for me.

5. On 24 February the copy was received by registered mail with a letter from Gutterer in which he related that his 17-year-old son had kept it as a "good luck" memento. Gutterer does not believe that another copy is available in Germany.

6. Herr Gutterer is to be compensated by a payment of DM 200 and a box of scarce items. I wrote him on 24 February to thank him and to tell him I was sending him a package for his son which he should regard as a personal gift rather than a compensation.

This document is to be removed from the file. If separated from the file, it should be subjected to individual systematic review.

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